



**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
FIRE DEPARTMENT  
FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION**

---

## **PYROTECHNICAL SPECIAL EFFECTS MATERIALS PERMIT REQUIREMENTS**

---

Article 1, section 105 of the Los Angeles County Fire Code states... a permit shall be obtained from the Fire Prevention Division prior to engaging in the following: ... to manufacture, compound, store or use pyrotechnic special effects material. A permit for use shall be granted only to a pyrotechnic operator. See Article 78. Additional requirements may be applicable.

**Pyrotechnic Operators** A pyrotechnic operator shall obtain required permits and be responsible for notifying the chief prior to using the pyrotechnic special effects material. The pyrotechnic operator shall have the authority and responsibility for the storage, use and handling of the pyrotechnic special effects material. The authority of the pyrotechnic operator shall not be assumed by anyone and shall be superseded only by the chief.

**Demonstration and Approval** When required by the chief, a test shall be conducted to demonstrate the safe use of pyrotechnic special effects material prior to normal use. The use of pyrotechnic special effects material shall be approved by the pyrotechnic special effects operator in charge.

**Preparation** The company or producer shall allocate sufficient time to the pyrotechnic operator to prepare for the transportation, packing, storing and daily securing, and to dispose of or otherwise handle pyrotechnic special effects material in a safe manner.

**Crowd Control** Onlookers shall be kept at a safe distance from the area where pyrotechnic special effects material is discharged and so restrained until the area is cleared.

**Smoke Control** When pyrotechnic special effects material is fired within a building, the quantity of smoke developed shall not obscure the visibility of exit signs or paths of egress travel. The maximum density of smoke shall be approved, and the pyrotechnic operator shall ensure that the maximum density is not exceeded. When required by the chief, provisions shall be made to confine smoke generated by pyrotechnic special effects material to an approved area and to remove such smoke from the building.

**Binary Explosives** When binary explosives are used, the compounding and firing shall be performed by a pyrotechnic operator. Firing shall be subject to the conditions described in the permit.

**Surplus Materials** Surplus material shall be properly stored until it can be disposed of in a safe manner.

**Standby Personnel and Equipment** When necessary for the preservation of life or property, the chief is authorized to require the attendance of standby personnel and fire equipment as set forth in Section 2501.18.

Additional  
Requirements \_\_\_\_\_

2/2003